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REPORT

## INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Bulgaria

DATE DISTR. 2 May 1951

SUBJECT Military Units in Stara Zagora; Airfield at  
Stara Zagora

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. An unidentified tank unit, believed to be of battalion size, is permanently located in the barracks situated in the northern outskirts of Stara Zagora. These barracks were formerly occupied by the 12 Infantry Regiment. The tank unit has an undetermined number of Soviet T-34 tanks, which are kept on strictly guarded premises.
2. An ammunition dump is located within 500 meters of the tank unit's barracks and is guarded by personnel of the tank unit.
3. An unidentified anti-tank artillery unit, believed to be of battalion size, is located in barracks on the western outskirts of Stara Zagora, on the road to Chirpan. These barracks were formerly occupied by 8 Artillery Regiment. The anti-tank guns of this unit are mounted on two pneumatic wheels, their barrels are approximately two meters long and have muzzle-brakes. Guns and shields are painted a dark green color and appear to be new. They are believed to be of Soviet origin and their calibre is probably 76.2mm. For transportation the guns are hooked behind trucks which carry the gun crews and ammunition. The trucks used by this unit are Soviet ZIS and GAZ and German Steyers. Columns composed of 15 to 20 guns and trucks are frequently seen leaving the barracks for training purposes.
4. Headquarters of the 8 Trudovak District are located in a separate compound in the immediate vicinity of the barracks occupied by the tank unit in the northern outskirts of Stara Zagora.
5. A military airfield is located about six kilometers southeast of Stara Zagora. An undetermined number of unidentified aircraft are based there in medium-sized hangars. The airfield is a flat strip of land cleared of vegetation and does not have special runways of any sort. A battalion of paratroopers is stationed there and is known to have conducted practice jumps until September 1950.
6. A special border guard unit, code name Baikal, is stationed in a former beer factory at the northern end of town. It has about 400 men.

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